



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, President and Publisher  
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### Editorial Supermarket

## A Sequence Of Ten-Second Opinions

LET'S face it. The month is July, the weather is beastly and the mood of the populace is cantankerous.

Noel Coward was once prompted to observe that, at such a time, only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the noonday sun. Said Shakespeare: "This is very midsummer madness."

Then why should we run the risk of raising the humidity with lofty editorial thoughts, lengthily expressed? There are times when brevity is a blessing and levity a relief. This is plainly one of those times.

Here, then, is a summer sequence of ten-second editorials. Each has been prepared for eye-ear and cerebral relaxation. We refuse to get comb over anything today.

Come on in and shop around.

### Under Cover

NEWS that Charlotte has again entered the National Collegiate Athletic Association's regional basketball tournament is easily worth at least two hips and a hooray.

Now, if Coliseum Manager Paul Buck can just keep his hall from blowing its top again we'll be all set. NCAA officials are sort of fussy about having their indoor basketball played indoors.

### Here's Our Man

THE year's happiest precedent was set in Washington last week at a luncheon honoring movie tycoon Spyros Skouras, "unsung hero of public service."

As is the custom at such affairs, the introductions, preliminaries and testimonials dragged on and on and on — and on. Finally, it became Mr. Skouras' turn to speak. He rose, prepared text in hand, and said: "It's so late. I'll mail my speech." Then he sat down.

Why couldn't we book this kindly soul for any number of civic luncheons that are going to be held in Charlotte next week?

### Savoy Blues

THE news that Harlem's famous Savoy Ballroom will soon come tumbling down is enough to send jazz buffs on a week-long binge of nostalgia.

This was the hall that nurtured the art form through war, depression and Lawrence Welk, only to surrender finally to the yawn of rock 'n' roll. "Battles of music" involving the bands of Chuck Webb, Jimmy Lunceford, Count Basie and Benny Goodman are still lively memories. And Stromboli? An old Savoy was more than a song title. In jazz, it was practically a way of life.

What bugs the hipsters most is the fact that the shrine is not merely disappearing but becoming part and parcel of Squaresville. The Savoy is going to be a supermarket.

### It All Depends

THEY'RE calling Yankee Manager Casey Stengel a "genius" for summing pinch hitter Gil McDougald off the bench for the hit that won this week's All-Star Game for the American League.

It all depends. What if McDougald had struck out? Which recalls the sunset wisdom of Grover Cleveland Alexander.

They're calling me a hero, eh? Well, do you know what? If that line didn't Lazzari had been fair. Tony would be the hero and I'd be just an old bum.

### Mice And Men

WE have no idea what thoughts ran through the minds of either the technicians or the mouse involved in this week's launching of the Thor-Able at Cape Canaveral. But poet Robert Burns probably wrapped up all of their collective hopes and fears nearly two centuries ago when he wrote:

The best laid schemes o' mice and men  
 Gang aft' agley;  
 An' Leve's us naught but grief and pain,  
 For promis'd joy.

### Musical Note

TODAY being the 21st anniversary of the death of George Gershwin, somebody ought to arrange a memorial concert of the great song writer's classics. A suitable great soloist might be Bernard Goldfine, who could belt out "It Ain't Necessarily So" with genuine conviction. He's been practicing it for days before the Harris committee.

### Title Change

DEMOCRATIC congressional candidate David Clark, the papers say, is one of three persons granted a charter to operate Hope Springs Farm Co. at Lincoln. Noting that report — and the three Democratic scalps already hanging on the belt of Rep. Charles Raper Jones — a Charlotte Republican bellowed: "They oughta call that business the 'Hope Springs Eternal Co.'"

### Who's Colloquial?

OCCASIONALLY a bona fide clunker turns up among the nuggets of wisdom offered by the female Solomons in the love-column.

An interesting sample is one columnist's sympathy with the complaint of a correspondent that his southern-born sister-in-law offers to "carry" him home in her car. The complaint is that this is an offensive "chance-dripping" colloquialism; that in good, plain English she ought to offer to "drive" him home in her car.

According to our dictionary, the poor sister-in-law is guilty of nothing but correctness. The first definition of "carry" is "to take from one place to another; transport, especially in a vehicle." Whereas one has to go to the eighth definition of "drive" to find a similar meaning.

### Ducks Or Cannon?

LAST Sunday afternoon we forsook the gloom-and-doom dispatches of the weekend papers, repaired to Freedom Park and settled on a shady bench near the lagoon. For upwards of two hours we watched children playing, parents resting, and the duck population sailing under blue skies and fleecy clouds. During the entire time, only one thought chanced by—that being thankfulness for the wisdom of City Council in declining thus far to accept suggestions for making a war museum in the midst of such pastoral splendor.

### Big Hearing

THE defense in the Henkel hearing has subpoenaed 33 persons. The prosecution has called for 25 witnesses, making a total of 58. Who said Charlotte didn't need a coliseum?

### Tickets, Please!

TWO little girls toured a Charlotte neighborhood the other day offering tickets to an extravaganza to be produced at one of their homes. The tickets were three-cents each, but no money was to be taken from anyone until they had attended the show. Tell that to the next tiny confidence man who tries to sell you advance tickets to a lemonade pouring to be held sometime in the indefinite future.

### Yank In 'Virginy'

WERE puzzled by all the excitement over the choice of Wisconsin Senator Robert Stanton to play the role of General Lee in THE CONFEDERACY, written by Paul Green for production at Virginia Beach.

Seems as the choice of Stanton is strictly anti-Vietnam. The real shock is Virginia's desire to produce a Civil War drama written by a North Carolinian.

### Never Happen?

IN East Germany yesterday Khrushchev and his puppet, Walter Ulbricht, were screaming denunciations of Marshal Tito for his refusal to take orders from Moscow.

On the same day last year Khrushchev was in Czechoslovakia saying, "our opponents very much want to subject the Czechs to the operation of the Socialist camp and to split it apart—but this will never happen."

Apparently Khrushchev was standing behind the door when they parceled out the infallibility of Lenin and Marx.

### Rapid Water

THE Fire Department has been filling swimming pools for private individuals because it can do the job so much faster than the owners of the pools. That's real neighborly. Is the department ready to accommodate homeowners who'd like to have a fast April freshet hit their parched lawns about the middle of August?

## People's Platform Inadequacy Of Old Age Benefits 'Deplorable'

Charlotte

THE News: I SEE in your paper dated July 8, that the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce is running true to form by openly opposing the Forand bill (HR 9467), which would increase Social Security

payments by 10 per cent and provide health benefits heretofore not permitted under the law.

Social Security benefits have been cut by 6 per cent by price increases since 1954, when the last increases were voted. Benefits have

lagged even more behind income levels. The average national old age benefits are \$65 a month. In the seven counties covered by the Charlotte Social Security Office, Social Security payments to those over 65 are only \$50 per month. The below average payments are due because of the low earnings of workers in these counties. Mecklenburg and Charlotte are in this same group and local employers are represented by the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and they are now saying they oppose any increases in benefits for those whose sole existence depends on Social Security benefits they receive.

It might be a good thing if some of the officials of the Chamber of Commerce would run visit to the Mecklenburg County Welfare Department and find out the facts of life concerning the deplorable inadequacy of present Social Security payments.

During May 1958, 2,766 persons over 65 years of age applied for and received aid from the Welfare Department, which means that during the last 12 months, 33,192 persons over 65 received aid because their Social Security payments were inadequate to provide the bare necessities of life.

The County Health Department is paying out each and every month \$4,733.27 for medical benefits which runs into the fantastic sum of \$56,824 yearly. This does not include expenditures for drugs and certain other necessities. In order to get aid from the Welfare Department or Health Department one must be in dire straits with no source of income whatsoever.

Can it be that the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce has no interest that they have forgotten the humanitarian spirit of brotherly love?

— BRUCE E. DAVIS

### Public Support Asked For Forand Measure

Charlotte

THE News: WAS with a great deal of concern that I noted that the National Affairs Committee of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce has gone on record as being opposed to the Forand Bill.

The Forand bill, sponsored by Rep. Alvin J. Forand (D-RI), would increase old age, survivors and disability insurance benefits by about 10 per cent; provide life insurance against the costs of hospital, nursing home and surgical care for persons eligible to receive old age and survivors insurance benefits; increase the maximum amount of annual gratuity payable under old age and survivors insurance for contribution and benefit purposes from \$1,200 to \$6,000; and the contribution rate for employers and employees one-half of one per cent each, or a total of one per cent. The bill would also increase the average factory wage in the United States, from \$10.20 to \$12.00. This means that persons earning \$10.20 or more a year, cannot expect increased benefits proportionate to their wages.

These changes would increase maximum old age benefits from \$30 to \$120, minimums from \$20 to \$35 (the cost of living index has risen from 114.7 to 123.5). The bill would also provide that in September 1954, assure adequate medical care to that group of our people who need it most and who are unsuited or unable to obtain it at exorbitant rates by private insurance companies; provide a more realistic basis for contributions, which would serve to increase maximum benefits to a higher level. Although the Forand bill would increase benefits only to a maximum of

Enactment of the Forand bill would be the most significant achievement in social legislation in the 81st Congress. I trust the people of North and South Carolina will examine the merits of the Forand Bill, and write their congressmen, House Office Building, Washington, D.C., asking him to support the Forand Bill (HR 9467), both in the Ways and Means Committee and on the floor of the House.

The 15 million who are aged 65 or over need this legislation.

— CAREY E. HANGLER, Director

Region No. 5, AFL-CIO



"Fifteen Million Older Need This Bill"

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### If You Disagree, Tell Us About It

Washington

THE News: DREW Pearson in an article appearing in your newspaper made a statement which was, in my opinion, "Not a word was said about those unpaid gift taxes which should have been paid on Nixon's \$18,000 personal expenses fund." To separate fact from fiction, it was not a personal bill a campaign. The money was never paid to Nixon and never passed through his hands. At the time of the Nixon campaign, the newspapers throughout the country reported the fact that a de-formation had been made that no tax liability attached.

I realize that you probably publish a column such as you in the comics and the crossword puzzle — to excite reader interest. I therefore offer a suggestion. Print such a column, if you permit the truth to catch up with those charges or allegations. Truth, unfortunately, is late in arriving and not nearly as newsworthy. However, false charges and the truth could be printed side by side, you might develop something to perk that reader interest. I therefore offer a suggestion. Publish Drew Pearson's column only after those mentioned therein have had an opportunity to see it. Provide in your newspaper equal space for that person in reply or offer a simple statement. Your readers' interest certainly would not lessen; it might even be improved.

Editors Note: Readers who disagree with Drew Pearson, or any other writer, are invited to state their own views in People's Platform.

### A Loss Of Wonder

## Man Believes Too Little

THE NEW gullibility of our particular time is not that of the man who believes too much, but that of the man who believes too little — the man who has lost his sense of the miracle — the man who has lost his belief in Creation. In some way an age, or even that man himself, physically and psychologically, can be directed into neat packages susceptible to complete explanation. When awe and wonder desert from our awareness, depression sets in, and after its blanket

lain smothering upon us for a while, despair may ensue, or the quest for kicks begin. The loss of wonder, of awe, of the sense of the sublime, is a condition leading to the death of the soul. There is no more wondrous state than that which takes all things for granted, whether with respect to human behavior or the rest of the natural order. The blasé attitude means spiritual, emotional, intellectual and even physical death. — Edmund Spenser in "Man in Modern Fiction."

## 'Goodness—I'm Sorry—We Didn't Realize—'



### Shame On Ike

## A Moral Disaster Threatens

By WALTER LIPPMANN

THIS FAR, the defense of Sherman Adams, as managed by the White House, has followed the President on a moral issue about which it is his special and peculiar duty to speak out and give the country a lead. The crucial question about Gov. Adams is not in the field of statistics, but in the field of ethics. It is whether there was a corrupt relationship between Adams and Goldfine which could be dealt with in a court. The question posed by the hotel bills in the field of manners — that is to say, what conduct is becoming in a gentleman who sits at the right hand of the President of the United States.

It is the special duty of any President to answer such a question. And in view of all that he has had to say about leading a crusade to clean up Washington, it is the peculiar duty of this President to answer the question. But Mr. Eisenhower has evaded it. As matters stand after his public statements, his moral judgment is that it was imprudent of Adams to accept Goldfine's contributions to his living expenses, but since there is no evidence that any law has been violated, the incident ought to be considered as closed. It is accepting Goldfine's money no serious offense has been committed, so we are asked to believe, as long as there is no legal proof that Adams repaid Goldfine by obtaining special favors from a government agency.

DIGNITY IMPAIRED It is not possible to close the incident on this point and at this level. For that would mean that the moral complicity of the President in letting the incident be closed is the most complicitous of all. The moral complicity of the President in letting the incident be closed is the most complicitous of all. The moral complicity of the President in letting the incident be closed is the most complicitous of all.

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THIS writer, who for some years has specialized on getting the inside news from Cabinet meetings and smoke-filled rooms, has been the subject of considerable interest in having his case sleuthed in company with the case of the Harris Committee.

Two wrongs don't make a right, but the mistake Baron Shackleton, the Harris committee's chief investigator, made was in "bugging" the room next to him in the Sheraton-Carlton hotel instead of using the Washington police.

Tar Heel's Wire Tapped The metropolitan police are not supposed to bug rooms or tap wires for either private individuals or congressional committees. It is strictly against the law. However, they do it just the same, as demonstrated by the operation of Police Lt. Joseph Shimon when he spied on Howard Hughes, the west coast airplane manufacturer, and his executives for the benefit of Pan American Airways.

Counterespionage It became something of a habit lately for big businessmen who are under investigation and have plenty of money to spend, to hire detectives to probe congressmen and similar underdog sleuthing. In the past, it's not a happy state of affairs in a democracy, and I have written various columns regarding it.

Shimon Exonerated After the Senate probe was all over, Lt. Shimon went before a police review board to see whether he should be punished. He was exonerated and given a new, choice assignment.

That is how the nation's Capital has looked upon wiretapping and microphone placing and similar underdog sleuthing. In the past, it's not a happy state of affairs in a democracy, and I have written various columns regarding it.

much higher than the laws against bribery and graft. That was in essence the principle on which Sen. Eisenhower ran for President in 1952.

The ultimate power of the state is not to be exercised in any other way than by the highest places men must be an example of what ought to be the general practice. They cannot excuse themselves by saying that in fact they have done only as many others have done.

### CYNICAL APOLOGY

It is a very demoralizing argument, which has been used since the disclosures, that everybody is doing it, and so why not do it. This cynical apology is not in fact true. Everybody in the government is not doing it. In politics and in business there is, as we all know, a big trade in influence, and a great deal of loss of conduct. But once we adopt the view that loose conduct can be tolerated by the President in the White House, we have surrendered and we have quit in the ongoing struggle for good government.

The line taken by the defense is a greater injury to the country than the original offense itself — than the hotel bills and the telephone calls. Gov. Adams, having confessed to unrestrained behavior, is undoubtedly loose conduct, can only be retained in the White House by tearing down the higher standards of conduct. Such a defense, if it prevailed, would be a moral disaster.

### Washington Riddled With Microphones

THE Commerce committee, which had the power to subpoena any person affecting Pan American Airways, matters highly confidential. Nor are primary sources of information in the office of former Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, he usually pushed up to the desk which turned on a recording machine.

### Outdoors Is Safest

I had a microphone in anyone's room in my life or tapped a telephone wire, and never shied. But when I don't want to let either government investigators or private sleuths know what I'm talking about, I move out of my office into the garden or talk in an automobile.

The New York Times recently revealed that news items were being shadowed by secret of the Eisenhower administration. This is true, but it's an old story. I was shadowed more under the Truman administration. The chief reason for the shadowing is to ascertain a man's sources.

### Robb Was Smart

This state of affairs was why Roger Robb was smart in hiring detective Lloyd Purry to look over the rooms of his clients for microphones.

### Democrats Picked

The Goldfine crew shuffled through the letters of the most embarrassing ones and finally selected those of Gov. Leader of Pennsylvania, Gov. Mennen Williams of Michigan, and ex-Gov. Lausche of Ohio, all Democrats.

### Here's What Happened

A lot of people have been asking what it was that were discussed on that Sunday night when their room was bugged. Frankly, it was a long way from any real shaking plot.

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